NEW-ENGLAND FARMER.

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IMPROVEMENT OF SOIL.

BY T. FANNING.

Time was, when most of the cultivated soil in the United States was rich; but that day has past. In many of the States, the occupants of farms have worked their lands out of heart, and abandoned them for more advantageous positions in the "far West." Many others still cleave to the homes of their ancestors, with little other prospect than that of making a bare subsistence, and the great majority of American farmers experience sad reverses from the annual deterioration of their lands. Tennessee, which is still the greatest corn-growing State in the Union, could once boast of seventyfive and a hundred bushels of Indian corn to the acre, but at present, the average crop is not more than thirty bushels to the acre.

The question might be gravely asked, why have these changes occurred? A bad system was at first adopted, and has been persisted in. Farmers have had too much confidence in the soil, and paid too little attention to its wants.

The great Buel's motto was "to improve the soil and the mind": his idea might have been correct, but the order of the subjects should be changed. The *improvement of the mind and the soil*, is the true desideratum.

The means to enrich the soil are numerous. Every cultivator is obliged to have at least a horse, a cow, a pig or two, and a few sheep; and there is no problem in arithmetic more clear than that from any animal properly managed, more manure can be made than will be required to make produce to support it. [Very questionable.]

Suppose we try the pig first. We will give it the poorest food of the place. We will be at the expense of constructing him a good house, and preparing him a yard with litter. Feed him on refuse cabbage leaves, roots, scraps from the kitchen, &c. and in one year he will pay for his mansion, food and the labor of giving it to him, and furnish enough manure to produce ample food for two such pigs another year. (!!) If any one will try it, and plead disappointment, he may draw on me for three pigs.

The cow, in addition to paying expenses by her milk, when housed and well littered, will furnish an amount of manure that will, by its scientific application, give food for one, if not two cows. The same may be predicated of all domestic animals.

But, unfortunately, many farmers lose the most valuable particles of manure by exposing it to the weather. After fermentation, the *residuum* is little better than the like amount of chaff.

The secret of improving the soil consists in knowing its wants and being able to supply them. The correct combination of the different properties of a soil must be studied. On some lands, clay will be useful; on others, swamp mud will be found valuable, and on others, sand will answer the purpose. Draining is often advantageous, and many plots may be irrigated to the great profit of the farmer.

Few have studied the value of green crops, oats and rye in particular. One crop of oats consumed on the field, will enable the cultivator to reap double the amount the second year. The same may be affirmed of rye.

Soap-suds, wood ashes, and charcoal, have all a tendency to improve soil. Another means of improvement is *deep* plowing—and the last, but perhaps not the least valuable, consists in completely pulverizing the land.—*The Naturalist.*

INFALLIBLE RECIPE

For getting rid of those Troublesome Things called Fruit Trees.

First, in regard to getting them: (strange that folks *will* take pains to get such things! why, I've known 'em to pay half a dollar apiece for the nuisances!) Do n't be anywise particular to get *thrifty* trees: you will find that those which are 8 or 10 years old, and have been raised among grass and weeds, with plenty of wounds and scars on them, are decidedly the easiest to get rid of, and perhaps a cent or two the cheapest.

When you come to set them out, put them if possible into some old timothy patch; where you will be saved the trouble of plowing among them; but if you should n't happen to have such a patch, and *must* plow your ground first, don't plow deeper than three inches; if you do, the roots will all go down out of sight into the cold, poor earth, and your fruit (when you get it) will certainly be spoilt thereby.

When you set them out, don't *waste* any time about it; if possible, hire a Dutchman or an Irishman to do it by the job; *your* time is altogether too precious in such a hurrying season to spend on a job of so little consequence. Set them as you would a post—that is, deep and strong. It is immaterial whether you get your holes large enough for the roots; double them up: they've no business to be so long. When you fill up the holes, use your bottom soil altogether, although it may be clay; it is handier, and packs closer around the roots and body, and will keep them steadier.

After you have got through setting, if your orchard ground were a timothy patch, well and good; if not, you may sow oats or wheat, and then be sure and *seed it down*, it saves so much trouble afterwards: besides, if your trees ever happen to have leaves on them, they will make excellent food for the grasshoppers after the grass is cut.

Do n't worry yourself any more about them, after setting. If they ever leaf out, and you should happen to visit them, you might very likely find some ugly worms devouring the foliage, which would certainly be a very disgusting sight; and as for killing them—oh! horrible! don't think of it.

In the fall, when the prairie grass gets poor, turn your sheep and young cattle into the orchard; they will get a good bite there, and so will the trees; no matter: it will restrain their too rampant growth, and save pruning. If you have friends come to see you, turn their horses in also.

This course infallibly succeeds the second season, if not the first after setting. If any of your neighbors happen to have fruit, produced by better management, *get as much of it as possible*; and do n't be at all particular *how* you do it.

But, says somebody—"Mister! you do n't mean *me*, I hope?" Well I do, if *that's* you. Now, don't dodge, friend: if you do n't like your portrait as drawn above, *mend your ways.*—*Prairie Farmer.*

EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIMENT WITH WHEAT.

The American Agricultural Association held its monthly meeting on Wednesday evening. Hon. Luther Bradish presided. R. L. Pell, Esq., of Pelham, detailed an experiment in the cultivation of wheat, which appeared to us entirely new. He said that on the 4th of October, last year, he cleared the tops from a potato field, burnt them, and returned the ashes, with the view of sowing wheat. The seed was prepared thus: soaked four hours in brine that would buoy up an egg; then scalded with boiling hot salt water mixed with pearl ashes, then through a sieve distributed thinly over the barn floor, and a dry compost sifted on it, composed of the following substances: oyster-shell lime, charcoal dust, ashes, brown sugar, salt, Peruvian guano, silicate of potash, nitrate of soda, and sulphate of ammonia. The sun was permitted to shine upon it for about half an hour, when the particles became, as it were, chrystalized upon the grain. In this state it was sown at the rate of 2 1-2 bushels to the acre, directly on the potato ground, from which the tops had been removed, and plowed under to the depth of five inches, harrowed once, a bushel of timothy seed sown to the acre, and harrowed twice; at the expiration of 15 days, the wheat was so far above ground as to be pronounced by a neighbor far in advance of his, which had been sown in the usual way on the 1st of September, 34 days earlier. A composition made by Mr P., containing 30 different chemical substances, was spread broadcast over the field before the wheat came up, at an expense not exceeding three dollars. The yield per acre was somewhere about *seventy bushels.*

The flour made from this wheat, which weighed nearly 65 lbs. to the bushel, received the first premium at the last fair of the American Institute. The superiority of the flour was owing to the enormous amount of gluten it contained. Mr P. read Dr. D. P. Gardner's analysis of the flour, which showed that it contained 18 per cent. of gluten after having been dried by an air-pump over sulphuric acid. His manures were applied for the purpose of producing gluten.—*N. Y. Commercial.*

At the March meeting of the American Agricultural Association, Gov. Edwards, of Conn., gave an interesting account of his raising an extensive variety of early and late pear trees from the seed. He recommended that fruit trees should be raised in this way, and stated the probability that the race of a tree became, in a certain number of years, enfeebled, and finally extinct, and it was therefore necessary to renew the trees from the seed.

We consider this false doctrine entirely. If fruit trees are properly taken care of, they will never run out, any more than animals or man himself.—*Amer. Agriculturist.*

SWEEDISH TURNIPS RAISED ON BARREN LAND WITH ARTIFICIAL MANURE.

The problem which I sought to solve was—*Can we, by supplying to the soil the constituents* (so far as known) *of a plant, cultivate that plant successfully on any land, however sterile?*

The portion of ground chosen for testing the principle here implied, consisted of five acres, and was selected because it appeared the most barren and unlikely in the neighborhood. Scarcely any herbage whatever covered it. On the failure of the hay crop in 1844, a party of poor men from Shaftesbury, came to me soliciting employment. They were set to dig this piece of land, but the soil proved too thin and stubborn for the spade; they therefore, in their own phrase, "knocked it over" with the pickaxe. Twice in the season afterwards it was sown with rape, but the produce was nothing.

A soil of this constitution seemed a fair field for the experiment on a pretty large scale and in a popular way. I say in a *popular* way, because to satisfy the requirements of rigid science, a strict analysis both of the soil and manure would be asked for, before any inference would be permitted to be drawn from the result. Yet for practical purposes, it may seem enough to show that on land growing nothing, a large crop can be raised by adding ingredients which the chemist tells us are necessary for the fruitful cultivation of that crop.

Accordingly, in the latter part of April, 1845, I determined on seeing whether on this piece of land it were possible to produce a crop of Swedes weighing 20 tons to the acre.

To effect this object, chemical analysis, as given in Professor Johnstone's Lectures, acquaints us that there would be required for the bulbs and tops of such a product, inorganic matter weighing more than 500 lbs.; consisting of about 146 lbs. potash, 76 lbs. soda, 69 lbs. sulphuric acid, 30 lbs. phosphoric acid, 103 lbs. lime, 22 lbs. magnesia, 23 lbs. chlorine, 23 lbs. silica, as well as a certain portion of organic matters in the form of ammonia and carbonic acid. It was expected that if these were sufficiently supplied to the plant in its early stages, the remainder of the carbonic acid and ammonia necessary to the perfection of the crop, would be furnished either (as Mulder affirms,) from the decaying matter in the soil, or from the ammonia brought down in the rains, according to Liebig.

The quantities of inorganic substances above enumerated, are not constant, but vary, as is well known, within certain limits, according to the soil: they must be considered only as an approximation to the quantities and proportions required.

Now as potash and soda may, to a great extent, replace each other, I calculated that 30 bushels of wood ashes would give those alkalies in sufficient measure. I made no provision for the alkaline earths, supposing that the chalk in the soil would yield lime enough. The sulphuric and phosphoric acids would be found amply in the 2 cwt. of Ichaboe guano, 50 lbs. of burnt bones dissolved in sulphuric acid, in addition to the sulphates and phosphates contained in the wood ashes. The guano would also yield sufficient ammonia to the *young* Swede plant; whilst two loads of saw-dust, already in a rotten state, having been fermented by pigs' manure and salt, would give out a constant supply of carbonic acid, as well as conduce, according to Mulder, to the constant formation of ammonia in the soil. The great affinity of decaying sawdust for moisture would prevent the effects of drought so formidable to turnips on our high chalk-lands. The opposite danger of excessive rains washing the manure away from the growing plants, was guarded against by pouring over the guano and ashes employed, 10 lbs. of sulphuric acid in a diluted form, thereby converting the highly soluble carbonates into the comparatively insoluble sulphates of ammonia and potash.

In order that every portion of the manure thus calculated, might, as far as possible, be duly apportioned to each plant, it was determined to bury both the seed and manure in holes at measured distances; but the looseness of the soil, filling up each hole as soon as made, defeated this expedient. The laborers were then instructed to begin at the highest point, and working downhill, to strike down with their hoes, small drills 2 feet apart. The manure having been previously hauled to the summit, a large wheelbarrow, loaded with a sufficient quantity for two drills, was wheeled down the interval between the two drills; and a handful of the contents placed at distances of one foot in each drill. Children followed, dropping upon each deposit of manure three fingers full of seed, mixed with fine soil, which served to prevent the manure from burning the seed. In descending the hill they trod on their work, and so buried both the manure and seed together. This operation completed the process; the only subsequent cultivation consisted in the thinning of the plants by children.

The issue of this experiment has exceeded my most sanguine expectations. Forty perches of the best part of the crop, yielded of *clean* roots after the rate of 23 3-4 tons per acre, whilst 40 perches of the poorest gave 19 tons. On comparing the relative quantities of the heaviest and lightest produce, competent persons have estimated the crop at 21 tons per acre of clean roots. Some of these when topped and tailed, weighed 14 lbs., many hundreds of them exceeded 10 lbs. in weight.

One remarkable circumstance presented itself to the observer. Between roots of 8 and 9 lbs. weight, would be seen every now and then a starveling plant, with a bulb not bigger than a marble. This arose from the seed being carelessly dropped at a distance from its appointed food. But the accident served to prove beyond all doubt, the efficiency of the manure and the intrinsic poverty of the ground.

When I began this experiment, the men employed on it and every eye-witness who passed by, smiled incredulously at what appeared at the time an act of well-meant folly—but *now*, the success can no longer be denied, and the last refuge of skepticism betrays itself in the question so often put to me—"But what was the cost? You may buy gold too dear." Of course, this is a most important part of the subject, and I rejoice, for the sake of the laborer begging for work, and the nation begging for food, that I can answer the inquiry most satisfactorily. Thus stands the cost per acre:

	£	s.	d.
30 bushels wood ashes at 6d.	0	15	0
2 cwt. Ichaboe guano, at 7s. 6d.	0	15	0
50 lbs. burnt bones and 22 lbs. sulphu. acid,	0	7	0
30 bushels sawdust,		2	6
Labor account in hoeing, drill, dropping seed, (the surface of the land being otherwise untouched,)		19	6
10 lbs. sulphu. acid poured over ashes,		1	3
Rent, 5s.; rates, &c. 2s.		7	0
Seed, 3 lbs. per acre, 1s.		3	6
Hauling manure to the summit of the hill,		7	0
	£3	17	9

It will be observed that no charge is made for pulling the roots, because 4 or 5 tons per acre of green food, furnished by the leaves, and fed to a flock of ewes, must far outweigh that expense, and ought, by right, to add a considerable sum to the credit side of the account.

I have thus given every item of cost that can be laid against 21 tons of Swedes per acre. The precise value of this root is, I am aware, an undecided point. In this neighborhood, I can sell them at the rate of 1*l.* per ton; but experiments made last year and others still in progress, lead me to value them at 9*d.* per cwt., *at the very lowest*—or 15*s.* per ton, when employed in fatting sheep in sheds; and this exclusive of the value of the dung,—which estimate makes the above crop worth 15*l.* 15*s.* per acre, at a cost of 3*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*, giving a return of more than 300 per cent. for the outlay.

I hope that it will not be thought an instance of too rapid a generalization, if I draw from this experiment the inference that, with a *skillful* employment of labor, reliance on the principles of chemistry, and adequate capital, there is no soil, however poor, but will abundantly repay the costs of cultivation.—*Rev. A. Huxtable, in Jour. of Royal Agricul. Society.*

From the American Agriculturist.

SALT AS A FERTILIZER, &c.

The value of salt for agricultural purposes has long been known both in Europe and in this country, and why it has not been more generally used is beyond my comprehension. More than one hundred and fifty years ago, Sir Hugh Platt, an eminent writer of the day, speaks very decidedly of the benefits which might be derived from the practice of sprinkling salt upon land, and calls it "the *sweetest* and *cheapest*, and the most *philosophical* material of all others." He relates the case of a man who, in passing over a creek on the sea-shore, suffered his sack of seed-corn to fall into the water, and there it lay until it was low tide, when, being unable to purchase more seed, he sowed that which had lain in salt water; and when harvest time arrived, he reaped a crop far superior to any in the neighborhood. The writer adds, however, that it was supposed the corn (grain) would not fructify in that manner, unless it actually fell into the sea by *chance*; and therefore, neither this man nor any of his neighbors, ever ventured to make any further use of salt water!

That salt is an excellent manure, experience, the most satisfactory of all evidences, clearly proves.

It is stated in an English publication, that "a farmer in the county of Sussex, some years since, had a field, one part of which was very wet and rushy, and that the grass produced upon it was of so sour and unpleasant a kind, that the cattle would not graze upon it. He tried several methods to improve it, but all to no purpose; at last hearing of the benefits of salt as a manure, he determined to try that; for which purpose he procured a quantity of rock salt, which, in a random way, without any regard to the precise quantity, he threw upon the rushy ground, fencing it off from the other part of the field, the effect of which was a total disappearance of every kind of vegetation. In a short time, however, it produced the largest quantity of mushrooms ever seen upon an equal space of land in the country. These, in the spring following, were succeeded by the most plentiful and luxuriant crops of grass, far exceeding the other part of the field in richness of verdure and quickness of growth.

Though this salt was laid on twenty years ago, this part is still superior to the rest of the field."

From the information which I have been able to collect, I am inclined to believe that salt, when sparingly applied, is valuable as a fertilizer, and useful in killing the grub and wire-worm, which often injure, and sometimes even destroy whole crops; and it has been found by experiment the past season, that the scab, or disease which has proved so disastrous to the potato crop in all sections of the country, has not been found on land that had a proper dressing of salt.

Judge Hamilton, of Scoharie, informed the writer, that he had found great advantage from using salt on his potato ground last spring. After plowing, he caused four bushels of salt to be sown on the furrow, upon one acre of the field, and harrowed in. Potatoes were then planted. Part of the field was not salted. Although the season was remarkably dry, the salted acre was observed to maintain a green, vigorous appearance, while the other part looked sickly and stunted. On lifting them in the fall, those potatoes where salt was applied, were of good size, smooth skin, sound, and of good quality, and yielded a fair crop, while of those on the unsalted part of the field, although the soil was fully equal to that of the salted portion, the yield was considerably less, potatoes small, and much eaten by worms. His neighbor had a field of potatoes on the opposite side of the road, soil similar to his own, who planted them in the usual way; the consequence was, his crop was small in size, inferior in quality, and most of them rotted soon after digging—they were diseased.

Doctor Bogart, who has charge of the Sailors' Snug Harbor, on Staten Island, informed me that he applied four bushels of salt to one acre of his potato ground, last spring, and thinks he derived great benefit from it. Though the crop was not a large one, the potatoes on the salted portion were of much better size, skin smooth, and free from disease. The vines were more vigorous, remained green, while those on land of the same quality adjoining, which was not salted, shriveled and died prematurely; the potatoes small and soggy, and less in quantity.

C. W. Johnson, a distinguished agricultural writer, strongly recommends salt as a manure, at the rate of from ten to twenty bushels to the acre, to be sown two or three weeks before the seed is put into the ground. He says the benefits are as follows: "1st, when used in *small* portions it promotes putrefaction. 2d, by destroying grubs and weeds. 3d, as a constituent on direct food. 4th, as a stimulant to the absorbent vessels. 5th, by preventing injury from sudden transitions of temperature. 6th, by keeping the soil moist."

It would seem from all the facts I have been able to collect, that salt corrupts vegetable substances when mixed in small quantities, but preserves them when it predominates in a mass; that in dry seasons, its effects are more apparent, and whether it attracts moisture from the atmosphere, or whether it acts as a condiment or stimulant, is of little consequence, so long as its effects are certain.

On account of the small quantity of salt, in weight, required for manuring lands, it is no inconsiderable recommendation, because, on that account, it may with ease be conveyed to the most rough, steep and mountainous parts, to which the more bulky and heavy manures most in use could not be carried, but with infinite labor, and at an expense far exceeding all the advantages to be effected from it.

Salt alone is considered by some rather too severe and harsh in its nature; but mixed with ashes, say six of salt and ten of dry ashes, well beat up together, which is sufficient for an acre, and spread upon the furrow, and harrowed in, it will prove a real enricher. C. N. Bement.

Albany, April, 1846.

SOWING CORN FOR GREEN FODDER.

Mr B. Smith, of Lexington, tells us his mode is to sow corn broadcast, and so thick that none of the stalks will be large; he sows at different times in order to have a supply that shall not be too old to be eaten. He cuts his corn but once, having never tried the plan of cutting before the tassel When it is cut early it will grow again rapidly, and it may be cut three times in a season.

Mr S. makes his land rich and sows about two bushels of shelled corn per acre; when it is up high enough for the hoe he goes through it, thinning it out, stirring the ground, and killing the weeds; he aims to let the stalks stand three or four inches apart. Once hoeing is enough, for the corn so covers the ground that the weeds are not troublesome after the first growth has been checked.

There are various modes in practice to obtain a supply of green food for cows when the pastures begin to fail. Some plant in drills, plow among the corn and cut the stalks before they are large and before the tassel appears. Others mow the corn stalks as they would grass for hay. Some cut three times, and others but once. When the stalks are thick they are so spindling that cows will eat the whole though the cutting is delayed till the stalk is full grown.

We hope to hear of various trials with green corn for summer feeding. Pasturing near all towns and large villages is in demand, and few are able to keep cows in such places on grass feed alone. One eighth of an acre of corn would afford a tolerable supply for a single cow. This, with half an acre of good pasture ground, and the waste vegetables of a garden, would sustain a cow as well as three acres of common pasture ground.

We would suggest to those who are disposed to sow broadcast, that when the weeds appear they can cut along with a common hoe, six inches in breadth, leaving a core of the same, or of a greater breadth for the corn to stand on. This work may be done quite rapidly, as fast as a lazy man would walk. This is the best mode that we have tried to weed carrots that are sown in drills. Run along rapidly between the drills, and overwhelm the weeds before they have gained strength. We must contrive to raise these field crops without much hand weeding, for that is too costly.—*Mass. Ploughman.*

More facts respecting the Potato Rot.—It is stated in a New York paper, that Mr. T. C. Peters, of Darien, lost by rot, something like 1000 bushels of potatoes, the past season; and he observed the important fact, that a field of potatoes, whose stems and leaves were evidently affected with the blight, had its tubers preserved from all injury by the action of the frosts that killed the potato tops dead. This crop grew on a low piece of ground, and subject to frost. Another field, hard by, similarly affected, escaped the frost, and most of the potatoes rotted in the hill. His early potatoes all escaped the malady.

Another fact—Mr Pearce, of Hamburg, Erie county, N. Y., who is an excellent and observing farmer, saw that his potato vines were affected, and pulled several hills to examine the roots. They were sound, and left separated from the stems or tops. By this separation, three hills escaped the rot, while the potatoes in all the adjoining hills were rotten at the time of harvest.

These facts go to corroborate the inference which our correspondent, Mr Canfield, drew from the remarkable fact communicated by him, in our paper of Feb. 15, namely—that the disease commences in the tops, and descends from thence to the roots; and, also, that when the disease is apprehended, mowing off its tops may prevent its spread to the roots.

Another.—A writer in the Ohio Repository states, that in planting about 100 hills of potatoes, last summer in his garden, after depositing the potatoes, he strewed, previous to covering over each hill, composing about one half the bed, a shovel full of stone-coal ashes; over the remainder he strewed about the same quantity of good stable manure. The result was, that those dressed with the stone-coal ashes were larger, turned out more to the hill, and never in the least became affected with the rot, so generally complained of; whereas those dressed with manure simply, became very much affected by the disease, though the soil and culture were the same in other respects. This, he supposes, was owing to the beneficial effects of the lime, of which the ashes are in part composed. It is possible, however, that the injurious effect of the manure was the cause of the disease in the other case. From what has been published, however, it appears quite probable that the application of lime and ashes, (either or both) will lessen or entirely prevent the malady.—*Ohio Cultivator.*

DISEASE OF POULTRY.

I noticed one of my hens drooping for two or three days, and when I went to feed the others, she would not eat. I therefore concluded something must be wrong. I took her up, and found her crop perfectly full. I then came to the conclusion that she was crop-bound, and that she might get over it in a day or two; but she continued to get worse. I now made an incision through the breast into the crop, of an inch long, when I found the passage from the crop to the gizzard completely stopped up. I removed that, took two stitches in the crop, kept the hen in a warm place for a week, fed her on warm, light food, and she is now as well as any fowl I have. This happened about three weeks ago. H. T. Lloyd.

We knew an instance of a valuable hen being in the same predicament as the above, from swallowing a large piece of India rubber. She was cured by making an incision in her crop, and taking it out. There is no danger whatever in performing this operation, provided the incision is immediately sowed up, and the fowl properly cared for till well. Fowls, both old and young, are very apt to overstuff their crops, especially when they get their food irregularly, and we have no doubt that many more deaths arise from this cause than is generally supposed.—*Amer. Agricult.*

To Prevent Brass Vessels from Contracting Verdigris—After being used, instead of wiping them dry, it has been found that by constantly immersing them in water, they are kept perfectly innoxious, and will remain for years fully as clean and nearly as bright as when they first came out of the hands of the workmen.—*Ib.*

From the Maine Farmer.

WHICH ARE THE MOST PROFITABLE, SHEEP OR COWS?

Having frequently put the above question to my brother farmers, and gaining no satisfactory answer, and likewise knowing that many run into extravagance in making their statements respecting it, I have endeavored for two years past, to make a careful estimate of the income of both.

In 1844, I kept on my farm where I live, four cows and three heifers, and from the milk, made as follows:

460 lbs. butter, sold at 13 1-2 cts. per lb.		$62 10
310 " cheese, " 6 1-4 cts.		19 37
150 " do. for family use, worth		9 38
150 " butter, " " " "		20 25
200 " pork, sold at 4 1-2 cts. per lb.		9 00
One calf, worth		8 00
		$128 10
Expense of marketing,	$2 00	
Female labor six weeks,	4 50	
Board of the same,	4 50	
	——11 00	11 00
Net income,		$117 10
		16 72
		$100 38

Allowing ten sheep to a cow, which is the general opinion of farmers, I deduct the income of one cow, $16 72.

I also kept fiftynine sheep, which sheared 173 pounds, sold at 37 1-2 cts. per lb.

19 lambs worth $1 apiece,	$19 00
173 pounds wool,	64 87
	$83 87
Expense of marking and shearing,	3 00
Net income,	$80 87

Cows excel the sheep $19 05.

It will be seen that I raised but few lambs according to the number of my sheep. Respecting the calves, I usually give them away as soon as the milk becomes fit for use.

Year 1845—kept five cows and two heifers. Produce:

312 1-2 lbs. butter, sold at 1 shilling per lb.		$52 08
22 lbs. do. in June, at 13 cts. "		2 86
575 " cheese, when green, 6 1-4 cts.		35 94
130 " do. used in family, "		8 12
150 " butter, " " 1s. per lb.		25 00
200 " pork, sold at 6 cts.		12 00
		$136 00
Female labor six weeks,	$4 02	
Board of the same,	4 50	
Marketing,	2 50	
	——	11 02
Net income,		$124 98

I kept 70 sheep which sheared 210 lbs. of wool, worth 33 cts. per lb.

34 lambs, worth	$34 00
210 lbs. wool, worth	69 30
	$103 30
Expense of marking and shearing,	3 50
Net income,	$99 80

Leaving in favor of the cows, $25 17.

I consider the milk and cream used in my family in the time, richly repaid us for the time spent in milking. After paying out the above small sum for labor, my wife succeeded in managing the dairy alone. A. L. Barton.

MELONS AND THEIR MALADY.

Mr Hurlbut—As it is time for planting vines, can any of your correspondents tell me how to have melons? I have planted them for a number of years, and cultivated the plants with considerable care, but seldom had the privilege of tasting a ripe melon, of which I am very fond. Now, the trouble is, not to get the plants to grow, or to bear; but just before the melons are fit for use, they are *missing*. Now I think if every one that likes this kind of fruit, would take a little pains to plant and grow for themselves, I should have no difficulty in getting my fruit.—*T. Swan, in Michigan Far.*

We have heard of the same difficulty in getting fruit as that with which our correspondent is troubled. After it had safely run the gauntlet through the hazards of spring frosts, insects, and when the proprietor's mouth was beginning to water with the near prospect of solacing his appetite with the flavor of some melting peach or choice grafted apple, lo! he would awaken some morning to find his fruit gone.

The malady which causes the mischief, is by no means new, for we have heard of it since our boyhood. Yet we have never found it classed and designated in any pomological or horticultural work. A proper term would be, *finger blight*. Like many other troubles that annoy the horticulturist, it is the work of *insects*. We should be glad to hear some further remedy suggested.—*Mich. Far.*

From the Boston Cultivator.

POULTRY.

Messrs. Editors—I doubt whether there are any animals kept by the farmer, which will yield him more real profit than domesticated fowls. If proper care be taken with them, and they are allowed to roam at large about the farmyard and premises, they will will produce eggs sufficient to bring in a profit double the amount of their expenses; provided, however, all hens will do as well as mine have done the past year.

From April 1st, 1845, to April 1st, 1846, I sold in market, 282 dozen of eggs, (being the produce of 23 hens,) at an average price of 16 1-4 cts. per doz.; amounting to $37 63 cts. Sold also from the same, $8 worth of chickens, which, added to $37 63, makes a total of $45 63.

During the same length of time, they consumed 24 bushels of corn, worth 80 cents per bushel; amounting to $19 20. This sum deducted from $45 63 leaves a profit in my favor of $26 43.

I have made no account of the eggs and chickens used in my family, (which were not a few.) If I had done this, the balance in my favor would have been increased several dollars. I will offset this, however, by the damage done by the hens on the farm.

One great reason why farmers think there is no profit in fowls, is, they never take the trouble to ascertain what their eggs come to in dollars and cents. They will put an over estimate on the grain fed out, and pay but little regard to what their hens produce in return.

My method of keeping hens is attended with but little expense and trouble. I make use of little other food than corn and scalded meal; the latter, but once or twice a week, in winter. I keep plenty of old mortar in and about their roosting place, which is about half under ground, and occasionally throw in a hod of ashes for them to roll in, which is an excellent preventive of lice.

I pay particular regard to the time of feeding—early in the morning, and just before sunset. Some make a practice of keeping a quantity of corn before their fowls day after day, and let them eat at their leisure. I do not coincide exactly with this practice. I believe in regularity in feeding fowls, as well as in hogs, cattle, horses, &c.

There is no profit, in my opinion, resulting from raising chickens, other than for one's own use. I commonly kill off my old hens and keep my pullets over, being much better to lay, I think.

I think there is as much profit in keeping hens as any animal kind a farmer can have, considering their value. Albert Todd.

Smithfield, R. I.

INDIAN CORN FOR SOILING AND FODDER.

We doubt whether the value of Indian corn is more than half known yet among the generality of farmers; and if the unparalleled drought throughout the country last summer, should have a tendency to teach it to them, the terrible lesson may be looked upon as a mercy, rather than a scourge.

During the past eight months, thousands of animals have been sacrificed for want of fodder to sustain them, all of which might have been saved and kept in good condition, had each farmer sown a few acres of corn for soiling and fodder. We saw last summer, on a light sandy soil, a crop of corn growing, which turned out six tons of excellent dry fodder per acre. It was sown on the first day of July, in drills three feet apart. The land was plowed deep, and highly manured. This crop was the means of saving a superior herd of cows from starvation.

Henceforth, however promising the grass and hay crop may be, let no farmer depend entirely upon it, but let him sow a few acres of corn for summer soiling, or to be cured for winter use. He will then be tolerably independent of a capricious season.

When corn is tolerably advanced in its growth, it completely shades the ground, and the drought will have little effect upon it. A larger crop may usually be grown in drills than when sown broadcast; and if the drills be two or two and a half feet apart, we believe it will be found better than nearer, especially in a very dry season, as the cultivator can be often run between the rows, stirring the ground, and neutralizing, in a measure, the effects of dry weather.

We recommend sowing at least one acre of corn for fodder, for every five head of cattle kept on the farm. If there be an overplus of hay, it is very easily disposed of.—*Amer. Agriculturist.*

English Grain and Flour Measure.—A friend informs us, says the Pennsylvania Inquirer, that the English "quarter" of wheat is 560 lbs., or a quarter of a ton, or equal to eight English bushels of 70 lbs. each, or 9 1-8 American bushels of 60 pounds. The English "sack" of flour weighs 280 lbs., and seven sacks are equal to ten American barrels of 196 lbs. each.

As far as our observation has extended, the prospects for fruit were never better in Western New York than at present.—*Genesee Far.*

CHEESE.

"A Dairywoman of Herkimer Co., N. Y.," in the Michigan Farmer, says:

It is difficult to give intelligible written directions on the subject of cheese-making, as success depends so much on experience that it requires practical teaching; but when this is not to be had, we must do as we can.

To make the cheese of a small dairy, say eight or ten cows, which would produce seven pails of milk per day, which, if properly managed, would make twenty pounds of cheese, I give the following directions—one point being constantly observed—that is temperature; as too much heat not only affects the quality, making it hard and poor, but diminishes the quantity.

The milk when set for curd, should be at 90 degrees, or about two degrees below milk heat. The rennet is then added, two or three spoonfuls to 7 pails of milk. The exact quantity can only be ascertained by trying its strength. If the proper measure has been used, the curd will be fit to break up in one hour from the time it was set. This must be done very gently, to avoid bruising the curd, and losing the cream. It is then left one half hour to settle, a pailfull of the whey is then made milk-warm and returned to the curd gradually, all the time breaking it up. Another pailfull of whey is now made two degrees above milk heat, and most of the whey remaining on the curd, let into another vessel, left cold. The warm whey is then returned to the curd, breaking it up as fine as peas. It should be now one degree above milk heat; if it is not, heat more whey and put on. It is then left fifteen minutes; the strainer is then spread in the cheese-basket, the whole mass put into it, breaking it up as the whey drains out. A pail of cold whey is then put on to cool it. After being sufficiently drained, it is returned to the cheese-tub and salted, one gill of salt to 16 lbs., then put into the hoop and pressed with about half of the proper weight put on, till near night; it is then turned, the whole weight put on, and pressed till next day.

If you wish to make a double-curded cheese, make the second curd in the same way as the first. When it is ready to go to the press, take the first curd (now a cheese,) out of the press, but not out of the hoop, cut and scratch over the upper surface, making it rough, that the second curd may adhere firmly to it. It is then put into the hoop with the other, pressed until near night, when it is turned into another strainer, and pressed till the next cheese is ready for the press, when it is taken out and rubbed with lard, a bandage sewed on it and turned, and rubbed every day.

From the Genesee Farmer.

FORESTS,—THEIR INFLUENCE ON CLIMATE, &c.

The cupidity of man is no where more inconsiderately manifested, than in the injudicious, often wanton, destruction of the forests of a country. Even *we* of this comparatively new country, are beginning to feel the effects of our mismanagement in this respect, and, judging from present appearances, we shall leave to posterity not a wilderness, but a desert. I am aware that these considerations will have little influence on those who "live only for themselves;" but certainly that man is not to be envied, whose whole aim and object in living is confined within the narrow limits of self.

The first effect produced on a country by the destruction of its forests, is to destroy the uniformity, or rather the equability, of the climate. This effect has been marked in Germany, Cape de Verd Islands, Greece, and Italy, and many other countries. In our own country, who does not remember when our climate was more equable and uniform than at present. Our winters were cold, it is true; but they appeared and disappeared with uniformity; and the excessive heat of our summers was modified by the cool and refreshing forest-breezes.

Immediately connected with the effect upon the atmosphere, and a consequence thereof, is its effect upon the earth. In all countries where observations have been made, it is found that the springs and streams have greatly diminished, and in some cases, almost entirely "dried up." Such has been the effect on the Cape de Verd Islands, where, since the forests have been destroyed, many springs have entirely disappeared; and the writer well remembers the time when several streams in one of the eastern counties of this State, so lately as the early part of the present century, were of sufficient size and uniformity to render them valuable as mill-streams, and on which a number of mills were erected, but which are now entirely dry, during a large portion of the summer, and of so little value for economical purposes, that nearly all the mills have been suffered to run to decay. Several springs also, which then furnished a plentiful supply of water during most of the year, now seldom flow during a large portion of the summer season. I might also cite the total or partial failure of wells, of late so frequently complained of in different sections of the country, especially at the East.

Another effect attributable in a great measure to the same cause, is the frequent and severe droughts witnessed almost every season in those countries and States where the forests have been extensively destroyed. Witness the terrible droughts and consequent famines that have of late years visited the Cape de Verd islands. I do not mean to say that these effects are to be attributed entirely to the destruction of forests, but that this is a principal cause.

Another effect attributable to the same cause, and a plain proof of a change of climate, is the difficulty of raising winter grain. Who has not observed the great change in this respect? The writer well remembers the time when winter wheat was raised in the eastern part of this State, as abundantly and as easily as in the western. The farmer had only to put his seed into the ground at the proper time, and he felt sure of an abundant crop. No wheat, (or very little, and that with great difficulty,) is now raised in that part of the State. This cannot be attributed to the exhaustion of the soil, for two reasons: first, because wherever the experiment has of late been tried, the *fall* growth is good, but it is killed during winter and spring; and second, because even on well manured, or entirely new soil, the result is nearly the same.

But, it may be asked, how does the presence of forests prevent these effects, or their absence produce them? We answer, 1st—They protect the earth from the effects of severe frosts. It is well known that frost never penetrates so deeply into the earth in forests and their immediate vicinity, as in the open fields. This results partly from the protection they afford against the action of winds, and partly from their preserving the uniform depth of the snow. Hence the greater amount of forest in a country, the greater the protection. Hence, also, even a small number of trees scattered through fields and along roads and fences, will, by checking the force of winds, contribute in some measure to the same effect. And how easily might the number of such trees be multiplied, not only without injury to the farmer, but even to his manifest advantage, as well as to the great beauty and advantage of the country.

2d. They modify the intense heat of the summer air by evaporation from the leaves. Plants and trees absorb moisture from the earth, much of which, incapable of being appropriated to their use, is thrown off by their leaves, and by thus imparting moisture to the atmosphere, they mitigate its intensity and tend to equalize its temperature. We have a familiar illustration of this in the cooling of the air in rooms in hot weather, by sprinkling water upon the floor. Orchards are cooler than naked fields—an effect attributable to the shade, but in part to the moisture thrown off by the leaves.

3d. From whatever cause it may happen, I believe it is true that more water falls in woody countries than in those divested of their forests. This, together with the protection which the forests afford against evaporation from the surface of the earth, and their influence in checking the violence and effect of winds, even in summer, operates to prevent severe drought.

Again, I might argue the importance of preserving and promoting the growth of trees, on other grounds than those of interest and utility. The barren and desolate appearance of a country divested not only of its forests but even of its scattering shade trees, and parched with drought, is anything but pleasing to a man of taste. What an uninviting world would this soon become, if its physical affairs were regulated according to the taste, or rather the *want* of taste, of some of its occupants!

I might also urge our duty to posterity. What will the future generations do, if the present shall continue the present system of destruction? It is true *we* may not suffer for want of fuel, though we may suffer other evils consequent upon the sweeping off of the forests; but where is our philanthropy—where our benevolence—where our *gratitude*—if we are willing to disregard the interests and the wants of posterity, to gratify our own cupidity?

We often complain of physical evils. Some of these are evidently beyond our control; others are caused, or at least greatly augmented, by our own injudicious management. It is true, however, in physics as in morals, that he who violates a law must suffer its penalty. The time will perhaps arrive when this subject will be better understood; but those who wish for this desirable result, should speak out on the subject. H.

Fairport, N. Y.

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Saturday, May 16, 1846.

VEGETABLES.—From Thomas Needham, a dish of China Dwarf Beans.

From W. W. Wheildon, three braces Cucumbers.

From Wm. Quant, 1 dozen Tomatoes, 3 bunches Asparagus.

From Orr N. Towne, two braces Cucumbers, extra size.

From John Hill, Asparagus.

From S. Walker, Water Cresses, from seed from the river Isis; Rhubarb, very large for the season.

For the Committee,

A. D. WILLIAMS, JR.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, May 27, 1846.

WASHING AND SHEARING SHEEP.

As the time for the performance of these operations is near at hand, we give some directions concerning the mode of conducting them, condensed from that excellent work, "The American Shepherd," by L. A. Morrell, Esq.:

First, of *washing*. The day selected should be one of warm sunshine. Immediately after a warm rain is best, the effect of it being to moisten and loosen the dirt. Bucks, especially of the Merino breed, require an extra time to wash them, and if a little soft soap is used, the wool will be valued higher by the manufacturer. After washing, avoid, if possible, driving the sheep along a dusty road, and turn them upon a thick-covered sward, that no dirt may collect on the fleeces before shearing. If the weather should be sunny, let from a week to ten days elapse between washing and shearing; if cool and cloudy, a longer time. The object of the delay is to allow time for the yolk or oil to reappear, and confer softness and brilliancy on the wool.

Shearing.—While shearing is going on, and subsequently, the weather cannot be too warm. Hence it is safest in this latitude not to begin shearing before the first of June. Should a cold rain occur during the process, those that have been shorn, should be put under cover without delay, otherwise death to some will follow. Humanity, as well as policy, requires this.

There are shearers, but they are few, who can do their work quickly and yet do it well; but these have acquired the art correctly in the beginning, and have wisely adhered to its rules through a long experience. But a great majority have been spoiled when learning the rudiments. Even shearers who have had the benefit of some correct teaching, are made reckless performers by parsimonious notions on the part of those who have employed them.

Bad habits are very easily acquired by a shearer, as the writer has had frequent opportunities of observing in those who have served him in this capacity for successive years; but it has been in the employ of these shear-by-the-head or job flock-masters. Here is the root of the evil—urging the shearers to do more than they can *do well*, and thereby confirming the old but truthful adage, "haste makes waste." The wool-grower must cease to entertain the false notion that by hiring his shearing done by the head or job, he is the gainer, for the very reverse is the fact in nine-tenths of such instances, owing to the slovenly and half-way execution—the sheep carrying away wool enough to double pay the ordinary day wages.

The novice in the business of shearing, may be guided by the following directions:

Supposing that the floor of the shearing-house has previously been thoroughly cleaned, the shearer proceeds to bring his sheep upon the floor; after catching it, throwing his right arm around the body, grasping the brisket with his hand, then lifts it, and with his left, removes dirt or straw, if any adhere to the feet. If the sheep is dirty about the tail, or perchance any burrs are attached to the wool, let all be cut off by a pair of shears kept for such purposes only. This should be done at the threshhold of the door. Then he may place the sheep on that part of the floor assigned to it, resting on its rump, and himself in a posture with one knee on a cushion, and the back of the animal resting against his left thigh. He grasps the shears about half way from the point to the bow, resting his thumb along the blade, which affords him better command of the points. He may then commence cutting the wool at the brisket, and, proceeding downwards, all upon the sides of the belly to the extremity of the ribs, the external sides of both thighs to the edges of the flanks; thence back to the brisket, and thence upwards, shearing the wool from the breast, front, and both sides of the neck, but not yet from the back of it; also shear the fore part and top of the head. Now, the sheep's "jacket is opened," and its position, and that of the shearer is to be changed: it is turned flat upon its side, one knee of the shearer resting on the cushion, and his other gently pressing the fore quarter of the animal, to prevent any struggling. He then resumes cutting on the flank and rump, and thence onwards to the head. Thus one side is completed. The sheep is then turned on to the other side, and the shearer proceeds as before, till finished. He must then take his sheep near to the door, through which it is to pass out, and neatly trim the legs, and leave not a solitary lock anywhere as a harbor for ticks. The trimming should be done away from the former stand, otherwise the useless stuff from the legs becomes intermingled with the fleece wool.

In the use of the shears, let the blades be laid as flat to the skin as possible, not lower the points too much, nor cut more than from one to two inches at a clip, depending on the part, and compactness of the wool.

Respecting the importance of cleaning wool thoroughly, Dr Holmes, of the Maine Farmer, has the following judicious remarks:

"There are two reasons why he who designs to sell his wool to the manufacturer, should be careful to have his fleeces thoroughly cleansed. First, because it is the indispensable duty of every man to be *honest*; second, because the reputation of the wool-growing district to which he belongs, depends upon the good condition of the wool which is sent out from it." The seller also cheats himself by inattention to cleaning his wool. "The manufacturer soon learns the quality, and governs himself accordingly. He makes due allowance in the price for the waste, and while the seller may suppose he is making gain by selling dirt in the wool, he does not in reality get so much for his fleece as he would if it had been thoroughly washed."

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Saturday, May 23, 1846.

EXHIBITION OF FLOWERS.

From M. P. Wilder, President of the Society, fine Lilacs, viz: Prince Notgu, Charles 10th, Dark Blue, Dark Red, and a curious new double one. Also, fine Double Hawthorns, Seedling Azaleas, Spiræa Reevesii, and a plant of the new yellow Persian Rose, very beautiful.

From a member of the Society, fine double Hawthorns and Azaleas, with a great variety of Geraniums and other cut flowers.

From Hovey & Co, 8 vars. fine double and single Hawthorns; a fine new Gladiolus from Germany, without name; seedling Pelargonium, and Roses in variety.

From Jno A. Kenrick, fine Double Hawthorns, 3 var.; Azaleas, Silver Bell, Magnolias, Scotch Laburnum, a beautiful cluster of Wisteria and other cut flowers.

From Miss Russell, a splendid bouquet, basket of flowers, &c.

From Thomas Needham, 1 fine Geranium, (Gath's Perfection.)

From Augustus Aspinwall, 150 fine Roses, (a splendid show.)

From Messrs Winship, Betula lacinata pendula; Scarlet and Yellow flowering Horse Chestnut; Azaleas; and Hawthorns in great profusion, and a great variety of cut flowers, occupying the whole of one of the circular stands, which was terminated by a large pyramid of Hawthorns.

From Walker & Co, Pæonies, Geraniums, Roses, 2 bouquets, and cut flowers in great variety.

From S. Walker, 150 fine Tulips, and 50 or 60 superb Ranunculuses—some of them very perfect and beautiful.

From J. W. Mandell, 3 Dahlias.

From Wm. Quant, Tulips, six pots of Fuchsias, (3 of them seedlings,) Crinum pandora, Euphorbia splendens, and seedling Calceolarias; also, a superb bouquet.

From J. L. L. F. Warren, 2 superb bouquets, and five smaller ones, in neat style—one composed of Abutilons and Evergreen, and one of Pansies; also, Pæonies and other cut flowers.

From E. M. Richards, Ranunculus, Tulips, and other cut flowers.

From Joseph Breck & Co, 250 fine Tulips, 100 Tree and other Pæonies, Iris, Narcissus, Lilacs, and other cut flowers.

From J. L. Gardner, by Daniel Crowley, 3 plants Calceolaria mæter, Cactus Jenksonia, Lobelia ramosa, Pyrethrum, &c.

From Salisbury & Willot, a very fine well grown plant of Lechenaultia formosa.

From Alex'r McLennan, Pæonies, Hawthorns, Lilacs, and other cut flowers. JOSEPH BRECK, Ch'mn.

AWARD OF PREMIUMS.

On Tree Pæonies, Hardy Azaleas and Double Hawthorns.—Wm. Quant, Parker Barnes, and A. Bowditch, Judges.

To Joseph Breck & Co, for the best display of Tree Pæonies, a premium of $3.

To Messrs Winship, for the best display of Hawthorns, 1st premium of $3; to Messrs. Hovey & Co, the 2d premium of $2.

To David Haggerston, for the best display of Hardy Azaleas, the 1st premium of $3; to Messrs Winship, the 2d premium of $2. WM. QUANT, Ch'mn.

On Tulips, Bouquets and Pot Plants.—David Haggerston, Daniel Crowley, and Alex. McLennan, Judges:

To Messrs Breck & Co, for the best 30 varieties of Tulips, the 1st premium of $8; to S. Walker, the 2d premium of $6; to Wm. Quant, the 3d premium of $4.

For Pot Plants, 1st premium to Wm. Quant, of $2. To Daniel Crowley, 2d premium of $1.

For Bouquets, 1st premium of $2, to Miss Russell; 2d premium of $1, to Wm. Quant.

D. HAGGERSTON, Chm'n.

FRUITS.—By John F. Allen, of Salem, four varieties of Grapes, viz: Black Hamburg, Black Portugal, White Chasselas, and July. Also, two Peaches and six Figs. By Wm. J. Niles, West Cambridge, wild Strawberries. For the Committee,

S. WALKER, *Chairman*.

VEGETABLES.—From Wm. Quant, a brace of Windsor Prize improved Cucumbers.

From Thomas Needham, a brace of Cucumbers.

For the Committee,

A. D. WILLIAMS, Jr., *Chm'n*.

☞Keep a sharp look-out for the caterpillars. If you detect a nest, apply the Pickering brush, or sweep it off by some means, and that forthwith.

☞A spell of warm, sunny weather would be very acceptable about this time, both to the crops and the people.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietor of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, to the week ending May 24.

May, 1846.	7 A.M.	12, M	5, P M.	Wind.
Monday, 18	66	78	52	S.
Tuesday. 19	40	51	44	N. W.
Wednesday, 20	39	65	56	N. W.
Thursday, 21	43	52	52	N. W.
Friday, 22	42	63	61	N. E.
Saturday, 23	52	62	59	E.
Sunday, 24	55	66	62	E.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, May 25, 1846.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At market 410 Beef Cattle, 20 pairs Working Oxen, 40 Cows and Calves, 600 Sheep and 725 Swine.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—Last week's prices were fully sustained. We quote Extra, $6,25 a $6,50. 1st quality, $6,00 a $6,25. 2d quality $5,50 a 5,75. 3d quality, $4,75 a 5,00.

Working Oxen.—Sales $70, $78 and $92.

Cows and Calves. Sales 18, 23, 25, 30, 32 and $45.

Sheep.—Sales from 1,75 $3,25.

Swine.—Old Hogs, Barrows 5, Sows 4 1-2. Lots to peddle, small Pigs 5 1-2 and 6 1-2. Very small Pigs by the lot at 7 1-2. At retail, from 5 to 7.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $0 00 a 2 50 per bushel. Red Top 65 to 70 cents. Clover—Northern, 11 to 11½c.—Southern, 10 a 00 c. Flax Seed, $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $2 25 a 2 50 per bushel. Millet, 1 75 to 2 00.

GRAIN. There have been no heavy operations in the, market during the past week, and the last reported prices are without much change.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel 00 a 00—Southern, round yellow, 69 a 70—Southern flat yellow, 68 a 70—do. do. white 66 a 69—do New Orleans, 60 a 66—Barley 00 a 00—Rye, Northern, 75 a 76—do. Southern, 00 a 00—Oats Southern, 40 a 42—Northern do. 47 to 48—Beans, per bushel 1 00 a 1 50.—Shorts, per double bush. 37 a 40—Bran, 00 a 00.

FLOUR. The sales this week have not been so extensive as those of last.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. new, $4 56 a 4 62—do. wharf, $4 50 a 0 00—do. free of garlic, $0 00 a 0 00—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $4 50 a 0 00—Fredericksburg, low P'd new $4 50 a 0 00—Alexandria, wharf, 4 50 a 0 00—Georgetown, $4 62 a 4 75—Extra do. 0 00 a 0 00—Richmond Canal, $4 50 a 4 62—do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, City, $0 00 a 0 00—do. Country $4 37 a 4 50—Genesee, common, cash, $4 68 a 4 75—do fancy brands, $5 37½ a 5 50—Ohio via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $0 00 a 0 00. Rye, $3 50 a 3 75—Indian Meal in bbls. $3 37 a 0 00.

PROVISIONS. There has been quite an active demand for Pork during the past week.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $8 50 a 9 50—Navy—$7 50 a 0 00.—No. 1, $7 25 a 7 50—do Prime $5 75 a 6 00—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $12 50 a 13 00—do Clear $12 00 a 00 00 do. Mess, $11 00 a 11 50—do Prime $9 75 a 10 00—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00—Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00—Butter, ship'ng, 00 a 00—do store. uninspected, 8 a 10—do dairy, 15 cts. a 18—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 6¾ a 7—do South and Western, 6½ a 7—Hams, Boston, 7 a 00—Southern and Western, 6½ a 7—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal 4 a 6—do new milk, 7 a 9.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. ad. val. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per et. ad. val. and 3 cts. per pound.

The quantity of old wool now remaining is not large, but is deemed sufficient for the wants of the manufacturers till the new clip can come to market.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 38 a 40 c.—American full blood, do 35 a 37—Do. 3-4 do 30 a 32—Do. 1-2 do 28 a 30—1-4 and common do 26 a 28—Smyrna Sheep, washed, 18 a 20—Do. unwashed, 10 a 11—Bengasi do 6 a 7—Saxony, clean, 12—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 10 a 13—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 33 a 33—No. 1 do. do. do. 27 a 30—No. 2 do do do 18 a 20—No. 3 do do do 14 a 16.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

1st sort Mass. 1844, lb. 18 a 20; 2d do 00 a 00.

HAY, 20 to 00 per ton—Eastern Screwed $15 to 16.

EGGS, 15 to 18.

Howard's Improved Easy Draught Plows.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky.* BEGIN WITH Mr. Howard's."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twenty seven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside; this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, a at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

REVOLVING HORSE RAKE.

The Revolving Horse Rake has been in general use in most parts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and is found to be one of the most useful labor saving machines now in use. One man and horse, with a boy to lead, will rake on an average from 25 to 30 acres per day with ease, and do the work well. There is a great advantage in this rake over all others, as the person using it does not have to stop the horse to unload the rake.

For sale at Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOS. BRECK & CO.

GRAIN CRADLES.

The Grain Cradle is an article which is coming into very general use in the New England States where they were till of late but little known, although they have been in very general use in the southern and western States, for many years, and which is found to be decidedly the best mode of harvesting grain, as it is supposed one man will cradle five acres in a day when he cannot reap more than one. The difference in gathering a crop is so much in favor of cradling, that we must suppose that it will be the only mode adopted hereafter, and the grain cradle will become of as much use, as an implement of husbandry, as the plow now is.

There has been a very great improvement in the manufacturing of this article, they are now made on the most improved plan; the scythe is well secured and finished in a superior manner and made of the best cast steel.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

TRACE CHAINS, &c.

Just received per ship "Sunbeam," from Liverpool, a large assortment of Fence, Trace, Halter and Dog CHAINS, of every description.

Also, per "Mary Ann," from Liverpool, a large assortment of splendid *GARDEN SHEARS, FLOWER GATHERERS, BRIAR HOOKS, NORWAY RAG STONES,* &c. and

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO,
March 18. No. 51 and 52 N. Market street.

SLAKED LIME.

50 casks for sale at a low price, by JOHN B. HATCH, wharf at foot of Tufts' street, near Chelsea Bridge, Charlestown. March 24.

HOES,

Of different patterns, for sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, 51 and 51 North Market street, by
April 1. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

SAYLE'S GARDEN ENGINES.

A splendid article, will throw a constant stream of water to the distance of 50 to 60 feet, with great force, and in case of fire would be a substitute for a fire engine. The most perfect article for the purpose ever introduced.

CLIMBING ROSES.

The subscribers have for sale strong Plants of the following superb Climbing Roses—

Queen of the Prairies;
Baltimore Belle;
Rosa rubifolia superba.

Also, Cloth of Gold and La Reine Roses, with many other new and choice varieties. JOS. BRECK & CO.
April 22, 1846.

FRESH GARDEN SEEDS.

For sale at Nos. 51 and 52 North Market street, (up stairs,) an extensive assortment of

GARDEN, FIELD AND FLOWER SEEDS, viz.

EARLY PEAS.

Cedo Nulli.	Prince Albert.
Smith's Early.	Bishop's Dwarf.
Early Frame.	Blue Imperial, and man
Dwarf Marrowfat.	other fine varieties.

MELONS, OF SUPERIOR SORTS.

Netted Cantaloupe,	Persian.
Black Rock.	Nutmeg.
Minorca.	Green Citron, &c.
Skillman's Fine Rock.	

Cuthill's Early Frame Cucumber, White Spine, &c.

Seymour's White Solid Celery—Large Asiatic Cauliflower

TOMATOES.

Large Red.	Cherry, or Grape, red and
Large Yellow.	yellow, &c.
Pear Shaped.	

Broccoli, of various sorts—Early Cabbages, and every variety of Seed for the Garden.
March 18. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

NEW AND CHOICE VEGETABLE SEEDS.

The subscribers have just received the following Choice *VEGETABLE SEEDS*, viz:

Bailey's Superb White Solid Celery;
Do. do. Red do.;
New Transparent Yellow Endive;
Scandex Bulbosa, or Turnip rooted Chervil, (a delicious vegetable;)
German Greens, (beautifully curled;)
Couve Touchardu, (a delicious vegetable;)
Weeden's prize Cucumber, 25 cents each paper;
Cuthill's improved black Spined, do. do.
Cappell's Cream Brocoli;
Cheltenham do.; Hardy Cape do.;
Royal Queen Cabbage;
Warner's Incomparable do.;
Royal Dwarf do.;
Wellington do.;
Imperial do.;
Vanach do.; Early Hope, &c.;
British Queen Pea;
Woodford's Prolific do.;
Early Victoria do.;
Green Imperial;
Matchless Marrowfat;
Royal green Marrow;
Dancer's Monastery;
Warner's Early Emperor,—with many other choice varieties. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.
Boston, April 28, 1846.

SPRUCE POLES.

1000 dozen suitable for Rustic Fences;
1000 dozen Dahlia and Bean Poles;
2000 Spruce Poles 10 to 30 feet in length;
For sale by
MOSES FRENCH, jr. Maine Wharf
Broad Street, near the bottom of Summer street.
March 29, 1846. 3m.

REINE CLAUDE DE BAVAY PLUMS.

A few Trees of this new and superb variety of Plum, for sale by the subscribers at $2 each. J. BRECK & CO.
April 14

PAULINA IMPERIALIS.

For sale by the subscribers, a few Plants of this superb Ornamental Tree at $2 each. J BRECK & CO

Guano! Guano!

The subscribers have for sale *GUANO*, of various qualities, from 37½ to $50 per ton, viz: 100 tons first quality of Peruvian, 100 do. do. do. Ichaboe, 100 do. second do. do.
JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,
N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 North Market Street, (up stairs.) Boston.
April 8.

SUPERB DOUBLE DAHLIAS.

The subscribers have as great a variety of choice Double Dahlias, of every color and tint, as can be found in the city, which they offer at reduced prices.
May 5. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Get Married.—Young man, if you have arrived at the right point in life for it, let every other consideration give way to that of getting married. A *good* wife is the most constant and faithful companion and friend you can have by your side while performing the journey of life. She is of more service than you may at first imagine. She can smooth your linen and your cares—mend your trowsers, and, perchance, your morals,—sweeten your sour moments, as well as your tea and coffee for you—ruffle your shirt bosom, if you wish, but never your temper; and instead of sowing the seeds of sorrow in your path, she will sew buttons on your shirt, and plant happiness instead of Canada thistles in your bosom. Yes, and if you are too confounded lazy or too proud to do such work yourself, she will chop wood, and dig potatoes for dinner. When a woman loves, she loves with a double distilled devotedness; and when she hates, she hates on the high-pressure principle.

Get married, by all means! Mark this: if, blest with health and employment, you are not able to support a wife—a *prudent* woman—then, depend upon it, you are not capable of taking care of yourself. Therefore, so much the more need of annexation—for "in union," as well as in an onion, "there is strength."

My hearers, get married while you are young; and then, when the frosts of age shall whiten your pates and wither the flowers of affection, perchance a vigorous and joyous offspring will surround and grace the parent tree, like ivy twining and adorning the time-scathed oak.—*Dow, jr.*

Rowland Hill.—This famous and eccentric divine was always annoyed when there happened to be any unusual noise in church, or when anything occurred to divert the attention of his hearers from what he was saying. On one occasion, a few days before his death, he was preaching to one of the most crowded congregations that ever assembled to hear him. In the middle of his discourse, he observed a commotion in the gallery. For some time he took no notice of it, but at length finding it increasing, he paused in his sermon, and looking to the scene of the confusion, he exclaimed—

"What 's the matter there? The devil seems to have got among you!"

Upon which, a plain-looking countryman immediately started to his feet, and addressing Mr Hill, said—

"No, sir, it ar'nt the devil as is doing it; it's a fat lady wot's fainted; and she's sich a wery fat 'un, sir, that it don't seem likely she'll come to agin wery soon."

"Oh, that's it, is it!" said Mr Hill, drawing his hand across his chin; "then I beg the lady's pardon—*and the devil's, too!*"

One Sunday, he found upon his desk the following, which he read aloud:

"An humble partaker in Christ desires to know why Brother Hill finds it necessary to ride to church in a sumptuous carriage, when his Divine Master never rode any way, except on an ass."

Upon which inquiry, "Brother Hill," shoving up his spectacles on his forehead, and with an air of great humility, thus commented:

"I would say in answer to my humble brother, that I *have* a carriage, but no beast such as our Master rode. However, if my worthy brother will present himself at the door of my dwelling, on next Lord's day, ready saddled and bridled, I will ride *him* to church, instead of taking my carriage!"

Table Civilities.—"Shall I help you to the butter?" said the landlady of a cheap boarding-house to one of her boarders. 'Don't trouble yourself," was the reply, "the butter is strong enough to help itself."

To Stop a Runnway Horse.—A paragraph widely circulated, says that to stop a runaway saddle-horse, catch hold of his mane, wind the bridle round his neck, and pull vigorously. We should think a better way would be to jump off and catch hold of his tail.—*Prairie Far.*

"My *dear* wife!" as the husband exclaimed as he looked at the milliner's bill.

It is said that some people have made handsome fortunes simply by *minding their own business.*

SUPERB VARIETIES OF FLOWER SEEDS.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. *Seedsmen and Florists,* No. 51 and 52 North Market street, (up stairs) have now received a full supply of fresh *FLOWER SEEDS* from the most celebrated Florists of Europe, from their own garden in Brighton and from other sources, of the most select varieties—ever offered in this country. Special attention has been given by the subscribers in long practice, in improving the numerous varieties of hardy Flowers, which have so long been the object of their cultivation. and they feel assured that the seeds saved by themselves, cannot be surpassed by any other growers in the country.

Among some of the choice seeds are the following, viz:

Extra fine Verbena seeds, raised by an amateur in this country, from a bed of seedling, of 40 different varieties of every color and shade, price per package,	25
Extra fine Double Picotee and Carnation Pink seed, saved from a bed of 50 fine double varieties, (Breck & Co's. best,)	25
Extra Double Carnation seed from fine named Florists Flowers (imported,)	25
Extra double Picotee Pink seed from fine named double Flowers (imported)	25
Fine Carnation and Picotee Pink seed,	12½
Extra Double Florists Pink seed, from choice named Flowers (imported)	25
Double Chinese Imperial Pink seed, raised in this country from a bed of 50 or more fine varieties,	12
Phlox Drummondii, mixed colors, embracing scarlet, crimson, purple, rose, pink, and variegated varieties,	12½
Calceolarias, mixed varieties, from fine named sorts,	25
Pansy seed, from a collection of named sorts,	25
Geraniums, from a great variety of fine named sorts,	25
Petunia seed, from a great variety of fine mixed, variegated and other sorts,	12½
Double Hollyhock seed, in boxes containing sixteen distinct varieties,	75
German Asters, of the most improved and splendid sorts, in boxes of 12 beautiful varieties,	75
Annual and perennial Lupins, in boxes, containing 16 distinct species and varieties, many of them most superb,	75
Goodetias and Œnotheras in boxes, 10 best varieties and species,	50
Russian and other ten week stock, 20 distinct varieties,	1,00
Ditto 10 ditto ditto	50
A collection of 20 best varieties of Annual Flower seeds,	1,00
Ditto 40 varieties of Annual and Perennial Flower seeds,	2,00
Boxes containing a choice collection of 100 varieties of Annual and Perennial Flower seeds,	4,00
Polyanthus seed from fine named sorts, per package,	25
Auricula ditto	25
Didiscus cœrulea,	12½
Brachycome Iberidifolia,	25
Mimulus—8 varieties,	75
Do. single paper,	12½
Double Balsams, 10 superb varieties,	62½
Four varieties fine Candytuft,	25
Six " sweet Peas,	37
Four " wall Flower,	25
Four " Schizanthus,	25

Also, other fine varieties, too numerous to mention, embracing a rare collection of more than 400 varieties. Catalogues may be had on application.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS.

A few cases of superior Horticultural Tools, for gentlemen or ladies' use For sale by JOS. BRECK & CO., 51 and 52 North Market Street.

Boston, Feb. 2.

HOWARD'S PREMIUM SUBSOIL PLOWS.

The sub oil Plow is unquestionably the most importan agricultural implement of modern invention. It is considered by the best informed practical farmers of Great Britain and our own country, as an indispensable article in the most profitable husbandry.

These Plows are for sale, wholesale and retail. by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 & 52, North Market Street, Boston.

MARTIN'S MASSACHUSETTS PREMIUM EAGLE PLOWS.

The subscribers have for sale at their extensive Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 & 52 N. Market street, *MARTIN'S MASSACHUSETTS PREMIUM IMPROVED EAGLE PLOWS.*

Mr. Martin's Plows combine new and important improvements adapting them to the different qualities of soil and the various modes and systems of culture. His Eagle Plows, as improved, are much longer, the mouldboard, landside and point, or share, all extended without any addition to the width or heel in its work; thus adapting this Plow to the more perfect turning under of the greensward, and inverting of the furrow-slice, so desirable in greensward plowing. The principle of these Plows is such, from where the furrow-slice is received upon the mouldboard to where it leaves it, that it enables the Plow to take up the furrow-slice with the greatest possible ease, bearing equally and lightly over the whole surface of the mouldboard, turning it over with the least possible bending or twisting, and preserving it flat, smooth and unbroken, laying the furrow-slices closely and compactly side by side, and creating but slight friction upon the face of the mouldboard in passing through the soil. Thus the Plow requires but very little power of draft beyond what is necessary to cut out the furrow-slice.

His castings are of a superior kind, the workmanship not inferior to any other Plows in this country, and his timber being the very best of white oak; and every farmer knows that good timber in his Plows is of the utmost importance—all of which in fact renders B. Martin's Plow the very article every farmer wants. The high character of these Plows is abundantly sustained by a continued and extended patronage, which the manufacturer hopes by his efforts and exertions to retain Being himself an experienced Plow-Maker. he will not spare any exertions in order to render his Plows a superior article.

Gentlemen are requested to call and examine these Plows before they purchase. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston. March 24.

ESSAY ON GUANO.

For sale at Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Teschemacher's Essay on Guano.—describing its properties and the best methods of its application in Agriculture and Horticulture, with the value of importations from different localities; founded on actual analyses, and on personal experiments upon numerous kinds of trees, vegetables, flowers, &c. Price 25 cents. J. BRECK & CO.

GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, are found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co. No. 51 North Market street.

BOUSSINGAULT'S RURAL ECONOMY.

Boussingault's Rural Economy; Price $1,75. Downing's Book of Fruits; price $1,75. Stable Keeper's Companion; price $1,00. Also, a general assortment of *AGRICULTURAL WORKS.*

JOS. BRECK & CO.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

Remittances, *not exceeding ten dollars,* at any *one time,* may be made as follows:—A subscriber owes us two or eight dollars, which he wishes to remit us. He will pay this amount to the Post Master *in his own town,* and take his *receipt* for it, as money paid him on *our* account. He will then send that *receipt* enclosed in a letter, *to us.* We pass it to the Post Master in Boston, and get the money for it. This arrangement does away with nearly the whole risk of making remittance, and puts every subscriber in possession of "suitable funds" for that purpose.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS
21 SCHOOL STREET.